

# DECLARATION FOR PATENT APPLICATION (WITH POWER OF ATTORNEY)

As an inventor named below or on any attached continuation page, I hereby declare that:  
My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated next to my name.

I believe that I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled METHODS FOR IMPROVING METAL-TO-METAL CONTACT IN A VIA, DEVICES MADE ACCORDING TO THE METHODS, AND SYSTEMS INCLUDING THE SAME, the specification of which (check one):

- ☒ is attached hereto.  
☐ was filed on \_\_\_\_\_ as United States application serial no. \_\_\_\_\_ and was amended on \_\_\_\_\_.  
☐ was filed on \_\_\_\_\_ as PCT international application no. \_\_\_\_\_ and was amended under PCT Article 19 on \_\_\_\_\_.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office all information known to me to be material to the patentability of the subject matter claimed in this application, as "materiality" is defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations § 1.56.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, § 119(a)-(d) or § 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or § 365(a) of any PCT international application(s) designating at least one country other than the United States of America listed below and on any attached continuation page and have also identified below and on any attached continuation page any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate or any PCT international application(s) designating at least one country other than the United States of America having a filing date before that of the application(s) on which priority is claimed.

Prior foreign/PCT application(s):

			Priority	Claimed
(number)	(country)	(day/month/year filed)	Yes	No
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
(number)	(country)	(day/month/year filed)	Yes	No
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, § 120 of any United States application(s) or § 365(c) of PCT international application(s) designating the United States of America listed below and on any attached continuation page and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in any such prior application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office all information known to me to be material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations § 1.56 which became available

**DECLARATION FOR PATENT APPLICATION**  
(continuation page)

Invention Title: METHODS FOR IMPROVING METAL-TO-METAL CONTACT IN A VIA, DEVICES MADE ACCORDING TO THE METHODS, AND SYSTEMS INCLUDING THE SAME

between the filing date of such prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

_____	_____	_____
(application serial no.)	(filing date)	(status—pending, patented or abandoned)
_____	_____	_____
(application serial no.)	(filing date)	(status—pending, patented or abandoned)

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, § 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below:

_____	_____
(provisional application no.)	(filing date)

I hereby appoint the following Registered Practitioners to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith:

David V. Trask, Reg. No. 22,012	William S. Britt, Reg. No. 20,969
Laurence B. Bond, Reg. No. 30,549	Joseph A. Walkowski, Reg. No. 28,765
James R. Duzan, Reg. No. 28,393	H. Dickson Burton, Reg. No. 48,396
Allen C. Turner, Reg. No. 33,041	Edgar R. Cataxinos, Reg. No. 39,931
Kent S. Burningham, Reg. No. 30,453	Brick G. Power, Reg. No. 38,581
Kevin K. Johanson, Reg. No. 38,506	Krista Weber Powell, Reg. No. 47,867
Shawn G. Hansen, Reg. No. 42,627	Bretton L. Crockett, Reg. No. 44,632
Tawni L. Wilhelm, Reg. No. 47,456	Bradley B. Jensen, Reg. No. 46,801
Andrew F. Nilles, Reg. No. 47,825	Greg T. Warder, Reg. No. 50,208
Katherine A. Hamer, Reg. No. 47,628	Marcus S. Simon, Reg. No. 50,258
Trent N. Butcher, Reg. No. 51,518	G. Scott Dorland, Ph.D., Reg. No. 51,622
Jeffery M. Michelsen, Reg. No. 50,978	Michael L. Lynch, Reg. No. 30,871
Charles B. Brantley II, Reg. No. 38,086	

Address all correspondence to: Joseph A. Walkowski, telephone no. (801) 532-1922.

**TRASKBRITT, PC**  
**P.O. Box 2550**  
**Salt Lake City, Utah 84110**

**DECLARATION FOR PATENT APPLICATION**  
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Invention Title: METHODS FOR IMPROVING METAL-TO-METAL CONTACT IN A VIA, DEVICES MADE ACCORDING TO THE METHODS, AND SYSTEMS INCLUDING THE SAME

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Full name of first joint inventor: Max F. Hineman

Inventor's signature Max F. Hineman Date 1/20/04  
Residence: Boise, ID  
Citizenship: U.S.A.  
Post Office Address: 106 Evergreen Drive, Boise, ID 83716

Full name of second joint inventor: Stephen W. Russell

Inventor's signature Stephen W. Russell Date 1-19-04  
Residence: Boise, ID  
Citizenship: U.S.A.  
Post Office Address: 5541 E. Stageline Drive, Boise, ID 83716

Document in ProLaw

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Hineman et al.  
 Serial No.: Not Yet Assigned  
 Filed:  
 Title: METHODS FOR IMPROVING METAL-TO-METAL CONTACT IN A VIA, DEVICES MADE ACCORDING TO THE METHODS, AND SYSTEMS INCLUDING THE SAME

Examiner: Unknown  
 Group Art Unit: Unknown  
 Attorney Docket No.: 2269-5925US (03-0290.00/US)

POWER OF ATTORNEY BY ASSIGNEE  
AND CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR § 3.73(b)

Commissioner for Patents  
 P.O. Box 1450  
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

MICRON TECHNOLOGY, INC., assignee of the entire right, title and interest by assignment from the inventor(s) in the above-identified application, hereby appoints the following attorneys and agents:

David V. Trask, Reg. No. 22,012	William S. Britt, Reg. No. 20,969	Laurence B. Bond, Reg. No. 30,549
Joseph A. Walkowski, Reg. No. 28,765	James R. Duzan, Reg. No. 28,393	H. Dickson Burton, Reg. No. 48,396
Allen C. Turner, Reg. No. 33,041	Edgar R. Cataxinos, Reg. No. 39,931	Kent S. Burningham, Reg. No. 30,453
Brick G. Power, Reg. No. 38,581	Kevin K. Johanson, Reg. No. 38,506	Krista Weber Powell, Reg. No. 47,867
Shawn G. Hansen, Reg. No. 42,627	Bretton L. Crockett, Reg. No. 44,632	Tawni L. Wilhelm, Reg. No. 47,456
Bradley B. Jensen, Reg. No. 46,801	Andrew F. Nilles, Reg. No. 47,825	Greg T. Warder, Reg. No. 50,208
Katherine A. Hamer, Reg. No. 47,628	Marcus S. Simon, Reg. No. 50,258	Trent N. Butcher, Reg. No. 51,518
G. Scott Dorland, Ph.D., Reg. No. 51,622	Jeffery M. Michelsen, Reg. No. 50,978	Michael L. Lynch, Reg. No. 30,871
Charles B. Brantley II, Reg. No. 38,086		

as its attorneys with full power of substitution to prosecute this application and all applications claiming filing date priority therefrom and to transact all business in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in connection therewith.

The above-identified assignee hereby elects, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 3.71, to conduct the prosecution of the above-identified patent application to the exclusion of the inventor(s).

A chain of title from the inventor(s) of the above-identified patent application to the above-identified assignee is shown:

- ☐ In an assignment recorded in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office at Reel \_\_\_\_\_, Frame \_\_\_\_\_.
- ☒ In an assignment filed herewith for recordation, a true copy of which is attached hereto.

The undersigned has reviewed the above-identified assignment and, to the best of his knowledge and belief, title is in the above-identified assignee.

The undersigned further avers that he is empowered to make and sign the foregoing certification on behalf of the above-identified assignee, and to take the action set forth herein on its behalf.

Please direct all communications regarding the above-identified application to:

Joseph A. Walkowski,  
 TRASKBRITT  
 P.O. Box 2550  
 Salt Lake City, UT 84110  
 Telephone: (801) 532-1922  
 Fax: (801) 531-9168

Respectfully submitted,

MICRON TECHNOLOGY, INC.

Date: Jan 22, 2001

By: [Signature]  
 Michael L. Lynch, Esq.  
 Reg. No. 30,871  
 Chief Patent Counsel,  
 MICRON TECHNOLOGY, INC.

**ASSIGNMENT**

**FOR GOOD AND VALUABLE CONSIDERATION**, the receipt, sufficiency and adequacy of which are hereby acknowledged, each undersigned ASSIGNOR does hereby:

**SELL, ASSIGN AND TRANSFER** to Micron Technology, Inc. ("ASSIGNEE"), a corporation of the state of Delaware having a place of business at Mailstop 525, 8000 South Federal Way, Boise, ID 83706, the entire right, title and interest for the United States and all foreign countries in and to any and all improvements which are disclosed in the Application for United States Letters Patent, which has been executed by each undersigned ASSIGNOR concurrently herewith and is entitled **METHODS FOR IMPROVING METAL-TO-METAL CONTACT IN A VIA, DEVICES MADE ACCORDING TO THE METHODS, AND SYSTEMS INCLUDING THE SAME**, such application and all divisional, continuing, substitute, renewal, reissue and all other applications for patent or the legal equivalent thereof which have been or may be filed in the United States and all foreign countries relating to any of such improvements; all original, reexamined and reissued patents which have been or shall be issued in the United States and all foreign countries on such improvements; and specifically including the right to file foreign applications under the provisions of any convention or treaty and claim priority based on such application made in the United States;

**AUTHORIZE** the ASSIGNEE to apply for and receive any and all United States and foreign patents relating to such improvements in its own name;

**AUTHORIZE AND REQUEST** the issuing authority to issue any and all United States and foreign patents granted on such improvements to and in the name of the ASSIGNEE;

**WARRANT AND COVENANT** that no assignment, grant, mortgage, license or other agreement or encumbrance affecting the rights and property herein conveyed has been or will be made or entered into by the undersigned, and that the full right to convey the same as herein expressed is possessed by the undersigned;

**COVENANT**, when requested and at the expense of the ASSIGNEE, to carry out in good faith the intent and purpose of this assignment, to execute all divisional, continuing, substitute, renewal, reissue, and all other patent applications relating to any and all such improvements; to execute all rightful oaths, declarations, assignments, powers of attorney and other papers; to communicate to the ASSIGNEE all facts and provide to the ASSIGNEE all documents and things known and accessible to the undersigned relating to such improvements and the history thereof, and testify as to the same in any interference, litigation or other proceeding relating thereto; and generally to do everything possible which the ASSIGNEE shall consider desirable for vesting title to such improvements in the ASSIGNEE, and to secure, maintain, defend and enforce valid and enforceable patent protection for such improvements;

**AGREE AND ACKNOWLEDGE** that the SALE, ASSIGNMENT AND TRANSFER of rights and property set forth herein is and shall be IRREVOCABLE and BINDING upon the heirs, assigns, representatives and successors of each undersigned ASSIGNOR and EXTEND to the successors, assigns and nominees of the ASSIGNEE.

ASSIGNORS:

Max F. Hineman  
Max F. Hineman  
Residing at: 106 Evergreen Drive, Boise, ID 83716

Date 1/20/04

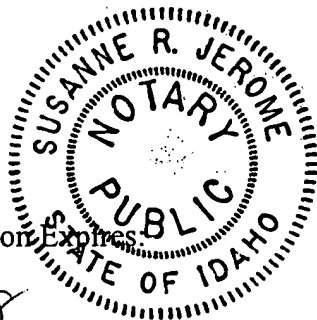
Stephen W. Russell  
Stephen W. Russell  
Residing at: 5541 E. Stageline Drive, Boise, ID 83716

Date 1-19-04

COUNTY OF ADA )  
: ss.  
STATE OF IDAHO )

On this 20 day of January, 2004, before me personally appeared Max F. Hineman to me known to be the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged to me that he/she executed the same.

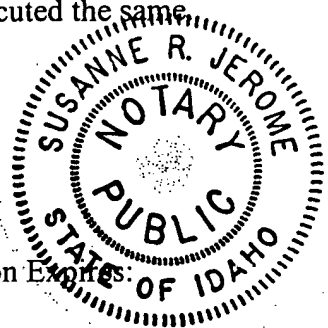
My Commission Expires: 3/12/08



Susanne R. Jerome  
Notary Public in and for said County and State

COUNTY OF ADA)  
: SS.  
STATE OF IDAHO)

On this 19 day of JANUARY, 2004, before me personally appeared to me known to be the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged to me that he/she executed the same.



Susanne R. Jerome  
Notary Public in and for said County and State

My Commission Expires:  
3/12/08

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